



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Preliminary Report

Location:	Kailua, HI	Accident Number:	WPR19FA123
Date & Time:	04/29/2019, 0910 HST	Registration:	N808NV
Aircraft:	ROBINSON R44	Injuries:	3 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 135: Air Taxi & Commuter - Non-scheduled - Sightseeing		

On April 29, 2019, about 0910 Hawaii-Aleutian standard time (HST), a Robinson R-44 Helicopter, N808NV, impacted terrain in a residential neighborhood while maneuvering near Kailua, Hawaii. The commercial pilot and two passengers were fatally injured, and the helicopter was destroyed. The helicopter was registered to United Helicopter Leasing, LLC, and operated by Novictor Aviation, LLC, as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 135 air tour flight. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and a company VFR flight plan was opened. The flight originated from the Daniel K Inouye International Airport (HNL), Honolulu, Hawaii about 0854.

Witnesses reported that they heard the helicopter overhead but didn't look until they heard an odd noise followed by a loud metallic bang. They subsequently observed the helicopter in a nose low attitude descending rapidly; none of the rotor blades were moving and the helicopter appeared to be descending vertically with little forward motion. Witnesses reported observing pieces falling from the helicopter which included: a piece of the main rotor blade, plexiglass, pieces of airframe, and a fuel tank. The helicopter impacted the street and a post-crash fire ensued.

The 0857 automated weather observation at the Kaneohe Bay Marine Corps Air Station (PHNG), located about 3 miles north of the accident site, included wind from 30⁰ at 8 knots, visibility 4 statute miles, broken clouds at 1,800 and 2,800 ft agl, overcast clouds at 3,900 ft agl, light rain, temperature 24⁰C, dewpoint 20⁰C, and an altimeter setting of 29.99 inches of mercury.

The helicopter has been recovered to a secure location for further examination.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	ROBINSON	Registration:	N808NV
Model/Series:	R44	Aircraft Category:	Helicopter
Amateur Built:	No		
Operator:	Novictor Aviation LLC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Commuter Air Carrier (135)

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	PHNG, 23 ft msl	Observation Time:	0857 HST
Distance from Accident Site:	3 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	24°C / 20°C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots / , 30°
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 1800 ft agl	Visibility:	4 Miles
Altimeter Setting:	29.99 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Company VFR
Departure Point:	Honolulu, HI (HNL)	Destination:	Honolulu, HI (HNL)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	2 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	3 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	21.403333, -157.764444 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Samantha A Link
Additional Participating Persons:	Joe Monfort; Federal Aviation Administration; Honolulu, HI Thom Webster; Robinson Helicopters; Torrance, CA Troy Helgenson; Lycoming Engines; Williamsport, PA Nicole Vandelaar; Novictor Aviation LLC; Honolulu, HI Spencer Leonard; Federal Aviation Administration; Honolulu, HI
Note:	The NTSB traveled to the scene of this accident.